

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/World/US/India-denies-visa-to-US-religious-freedom-watchdogs/articleshow/4664454.cms>

WASHINGTON: The Manmohan Singh government has scuppered a proposed visit to India this week by the **United States Commission on International**

Religious Freedom (USCIRF), a US Congress-mandated organization that monitors religious rights worldwide and gives independent policy recommendations to the US President and his administration.

A USCIRF team that was to leave for New Dehi on June 12 was not given visas in time, according to an associate at the commission, who said it was done with the obvious intent of blocking the trip. "They knew we

had tickets for June 12 and the visas are yet to be given, so the inference is obvious...they don't want us to visit," the associate told Tol.